

The Messiah In The Gospel Of Barnabas

Source: The Gospel Of Barnabas pps 103-6
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When the prayer was ended, the priest said with a loud voice:

"Stay, Jesus, for we need to know who thou art, for the quieting of our nation."

Jesus answered:

"I am Jesus, son of Mary, of the seed of David, a man that is mortal and feareth God, and I seek that to God be given honour and glory."

The priest answered:

"In the book of Moses it is written that our God must send us the Messiah, who shall come to announce to us that which God willeth, and shall bring to the world the mercy of God. Therefore I pray thee tell us the truth, art thou the Messiah of God whom we expect?"

Jesus answered:

"It is true that God hath so promised, but indeed I am not he, for he is made before me, and shall come after me."

The priest answered:

"By thy words and signs at any rate we believe thee to be a prophet and an holy one of God, wherefore I pray thee in the name of all Judaea and Israel that thou for love of God shouldst tell us in what wise the Messiah will come."

Jesus answered:

"As God liveth, in whose presence my soul standeth, I am not the Messiah whom all the tribes of the earth expect, even as God promised to our father Abraham, saying: "In thy seed will I bless all the tribes of the earth." But when God shall take me away from the world, Satan will raise again this accursed sedition, by making the impious believe that I am God and son of God, whence my words and my doctrine shall be contaminated, insomuch that scarcely shall there remain thirty faithful ones; whereupon God will have mercy upon the world, and will send his messenger for whom he hath made all things; who shall come from the south with power, and shall destroy the idols with the idolaters, who shall take away the dominion from Satan which he hath over men. He shall bring with him the mercy of God for salvation of them that shall believe in him, and blessed is he who shall believe his words. 'Unworthy though I am to untie his hosen, I have received grace and mercy from God to see him.'"

Then answered the priest, with the governor and the king, saying:

"Distress not thyself, O Jesus, holy one of God, because in our time shall not this sedition be any more seeing that we will write to the sacred Roman senate in such wise that by imperial decree none shall any more call thee God or son of God."

